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TODAY

Monday, June 8, 2009

Volume 22, Number 10

NEWS & EVENTS

15th anniversary of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital showcases Loma Linda University connection to health care in China

By James Ponder

Leaders and employees of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital (SRRSH) celebrated their institution's historic 15th anniversary with ceremonies designed to commemorate past accomplishments and outline strategies for meeting the future health care needs of China's burgeoning urban populations.

The events—which took place on April 28 and 29 in Hangzhou, China—underscored Loma Linda University's vital contributions to health care in China.

According to He Chao, MD, president of SRRSH, the hospital could not have attained its favored status among Chinese hospitals without the help of LLU.

"With the 15-year development of our hospital, we continue to grow and mature," Dr. He observes. "We have a Chinese saying: 'When you drink water, think of its source.' I think our hospital's achievements could not have happened without the support of Loma Linda University. Here, I want to express my appreciation."

Members of the LLU delegation present for the ceremonies included: Daniel Giang, MD, vice president for medical administration at LLU Medical Center (LLUMC); C.S. Chen, MD, PhD, chair of the hematology/oncology division at LLUMC; Jan Zumwalt, RN, MS,

MBA, associate director of the Global Health Institute (GHI); Gerry Ellis, MBA, administrative consultant at SRRSH; Bing Frazier, international program coordinator for GHI; Debra Marovitch, English teacher; Carolyn Thompson, RN, a Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center councilor; Carlyle Welch, MD, former clinical and administrative consultant at SRRSH, and his wife, Laura; and this reporter.

On April 28, Dr. He; The Honorable Pan Guoqiang, secretary of the Communist Party for SRRSH; and other members of the SRRSH leadership group hosted the hospital's international partners on a tour of the 1,200-bed Hangzhou Xiasha Hospital, currently under construction. When completed, Xiasha Hospital will benefit from sharing resources, personnel, and expertise with SRRSH.

The day's activities concluded when Dr. He hosted a dinner for SRRSH's international affiliates—SRRSH maintains connections to clinical and educational institutions in Australia, Canada, India, France, Germany, and other parts of the United States as well as LLU—at the Hotel Sofitel overlooking West Lake.

At promptly 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, Dr. He convened the strategic planning forum in the 21st floor conference room of the third tower. The session, which resembled a meeting of the United Nations General



He Chao, MD (right), president of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital (SRRSH), reviews construction plans with an unidentified representative of the company constructing the new 1,200-bed Xiasha Hospital. Carolyn Thompson, RN (left), a Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center councilor, and Jan Zumwalt, RN, MS, MBA (next to Dr. He), associate director of the Global Health Institute at LLU, donned hard hats for the April 29, 2009, site visit.

Assembly with its rows of dignitaries and translators, allowed leaders from the Chinese government, business and health care communities to join members of the international delegation in presenting a comprehensive overview of ideas, opinions, and aspirations regarding the future of SRRSH.

In opening the session, Dr. He pointed with pride to the fact that SRRSH is the first Chinese public hospital to receive accreditation from Joint Commission International, the not-for-profit entity that focuses on improving the safety of patient care for health care organizations throughout the world. Dr. He called the strategic planning forum "a new starting point to assist the organization towards future growth," before asking the Honorable Zhang Xi, Communist Party secretary for Zhejiang University, to speak.

In his remarks, Mr. Zhang spoke appreciatively of the help the hospital has received from Loma Linda University. "We have learned much from the advanced leadership model of this American counterpart," he noted, citing LLU's role in helping SRRSH achieve "tremendous progress in a very limited period of time." He also said that the success of SRRSH "has set a very good role model for other hospitals in the country."

The Honorable Li Lu, vice director-general for

the department of education in Zhejiang Province, also mentioned the groundbreaking collaboration with LLU.

"After 15 years of Chinese-American cultural integration, the Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital should become an example for hospitals in China," he said. He also noted that SRRSH has set the standard for Chinese hospitals in terms of performance evaluation, salary distribution, and its refusal to compromise patient care by adding extra beds to patient rooms.

Luo Jianhong, MD, first deputy dean of the Zhejiang University School of Medicine, also commended SRRSH on its rapid growth and strength. Mr. Luo noted that university-affiliated hospitals have an advantage over non-affiliated institutions and expressed his conviction that Chinese health care leaders should follow the example of SRRSH in attaching "great importance to the soft medical services such as nursing." He noted that "nursing is of scientific importance" and worthy of high regard in both the health care and academic environments.

Members of the LLU delegation took special notice when Daniel Giang, MD, took the microphone to express his gratitude for the privilege of working together with the administration and staff of SRRSH. Dr. Giang

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Daniel Giang, MD, vice president for medical administration at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC), addresses delegates to the strategic planning forum held in conjunction with the 15th anniversary of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, in Hangzhou, China. In his remarks, Dr. Giang praised the cooperation between LLU and SRRSH in crafting "a new paradigm of health care in China."

GLOBAL OUTREACH

First-ever Global Health Institute's All Aboard! International Conference highlights travel preparation and risks

By James Ponder

In an effort to help students, faculty, and staff planning a mission trip or other excursion outside the United States, the Global Health Institute (GHI) of Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center (LLUAHSC) sponsored its first-ever All Aboard! International Conference on April 2 and 3, 2009, in the Wong Kerlee International Conference Center.

Subtitled "Legal and Risk Implications for International Travel and Visitors," the conference provided a comprehensive overview of the GHI strategic plan for global travel, discussed security concerns, and examined formal requirements governing international visitors.

Highlights of the first day of the seminar included:

- Presentations on the global strategic vision of the institution by Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University, and Jerry Daly, MA, MSLA, assistant vice president for global outreach;
- A presentation on "helping heal our world" from Gary Krause, director of Adventist mission for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists;
- A security briefing by Dee McCown, senior vice president of Corporate Risk International, an international security consultant who spent 11 years as an anti-terrorism operative for the FBI;
- Reports on legal considerations for international travel, presented by Kent Hansen, JD, general counsel for LLUAHSC, and Raul Castillo, MBA, risk manager for LLUAHSC;

- A discourse on travel health issues by T. Allan Darnell, MD, MPH, assistant professor of global health and preventive medicine at the LLU School of Medicine; and
- A round-table analysis of case studies and travel experiences moderated by Mr. Daly. Mark Hubbard, MBA, senior vice president for human resources and risk management at LLUAHSC, contributed his expertise to the conversation.

Highlights of the second day of the seminar included:

- A discussion about obtaining visas and other legal considerations for hosting international visitors by Diana Bauerle, JD, MBA, staff attorney at Sidley Austin LLP, of Chicago;
- An overview of visa information by Martin Aguirre, MS, responsible officer for international student services at LLU;

- A presentation titled "When Guests Arrive: Working With On-site Observers," by Jan Zumwalt, RN, MS, MBA, associate director of the GHI; and
- A summary of GHI web resources presented by Mr. Daly.

Question and answer sessions at the close of each presentation proved very popular as attendees took advantage of the opportunity to inquire about specific issues involved in international travel and on-site observers.

"The seminar was a great introduction to the Global Health Institute and important strategies related to LLU's international work," notes Ms. Zumwalt. "We had attendees from schools and departments all across the campus. I was really pleased to see their interest in safety, legal, and risk management issues concerning our 'outgoing' staff and students, and 'incoming' on-site observers."



T. Allan Darnell, MD, MPH, assistant professor of global health and preventive medicine in the LLU School of Medicine, addresses attendees to the first-ever All Aboard! International Conference about the health risks of overseas travel.

Ms. Zumwalt also reports that many attendees expressed their appreciation for the event and requested a follow-up seminar. She added that the GHI staff welcomes the opportunity to serve as a resource and to answer questions for LLU staff and students.

Individuals interested in LLU trips abroad, or in the process of hosting on-site observers, are invited to contact the GHI at (909) 558-4420. TODAY

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Doctoral students receive recognition

By Richard Weismeyer

Three Loma Linda University basic science graduate students were recognized during a basic science seminar for their submission of excellent research proposals. The three students—Abigail Benitez, Nathan Chan, and Stephanie Cho—were each honored for their excellent work.

These proposals, which are on a topic other than that of their dissertation work, were submitted as part of the process where doctoral students in the School of Medicine's department of biochemistry and microbiology are

admitted to candidacy for the doctor of philosophy degree and represent a major milestone for the students.

Ms. Benitez works in the laboratory of Kimberly Payne, PhD, assistant professor of pathology and human anatomy, School of Medicine. Her proposal was titled "Evaluating the Role of Hepatic 11 HSD1 Expression and Polymorphisms." Mr. Chan works in the laboratory of Eba Hathout, MD, professor of pediatrics, School of Medicine. His proposal was titled "The Role of Hexosamine Pathway in Insulin Resistance and Diabetes." Ms. Cho works in the laboratory of Lawrence Sowers, PhD, professor and chair, department of biochemistry, and associate dean, School of Medicine. The title of her proposal was "Aberant Epigenetic Regulation in the Etiology of Hematopoietic Malignancy."



Lawrence Sowers, PhD, professor and chair, department of biochemistry, and associate dean, School of Medicine, presents the annual written comprehensive awards to (from left) Nathan Chan, Abigail Benitez, and Stephanie Cho.

The three also received awards for their performance during the 2008 administration of the written comprehensive examination. TODAY

5th anniversary of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital...

Continued from page 1

mentioned LLU's reputation for international expertise in health care and medical education, and he attributed much of the success that SRRSH has enjoyed to its focus on "caring for patients as individuals with respect and honor."

He discussed the vital role of simulated care situations, in which actors play the role of patients, and noted that by continuing to focus on evidence-based and patient-centered health care, "many lives and much money can be saved."

Before concluding the planning session, Dr. He remarked that LLU does not play a small role in the success of his institution. "Their support is indispensable to us," he told the assembly.

Pan Guoqiang, secretary of the Communist Party for SRRSH, echoed those sentiments when he said, "At the moment of the SRRSH 15th anniversary celebration, it is my honor to thank Loma Linda University for its long involvement and support. I believe, with the effort of us all, we will continue to strengthen our collaboration and continue to have fruitful results."

Following the strategic planning forum, attendees enjoyed lunch on the 21st floor rooftop patio followed by a leisurely boat ride around West Lake.

That evening, they joined 1,500 members of the hospital's employee family for the 15th Anniversary Gala in the Hangzhou Opera House. During the gala, members of the LLU delegation presented Dr. He with a commemorative trophy.

To say that the hospital put on a grand show would be an understatement: the entertainment, which featured lavish sets and high-tech effects, lasted more than three hours and showcased the talents of countless SRRSH employees, who formed well-choreographed troupes of musicians and performers to stage productions worthy of Hollywood.

In her recollections of the occasion, Jan Zumwalt noted that it was "truly a time to reflect on the first 15 years of the hospital's existence, as well as an opportunity to plan the strategies that will keep SRRSH on the cutting edge of health care in China in the future. I am pleased that LLU can be part of

this amazing model of international friendship and cooperation."

Dr. Giang concluded that "it was inspiring to hear the accolades bestowed upon Loma Linda University by not only our friends at SRRSH,

but also from representatives of Zhejiang University, the Ministry of Health, and international experts. The hundreds of individuals from LLU who worked to launch SRRSH should be proud of the hospital's success as a model for a new paradigm of health care in China." TODAY



Pan Konghan, MD, critical care unit intensivist, joins other physicians and nurses for morning rounds in the critical care unit at Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital (SRRSH) in Hangzhou, China. Loma Linda University maintains a long-term affiliation with the hospital and Zhejiang University. The affiliation has achieved several outstanding results, including the fact that SRRSH is the first public hospital in China to receive Joint Commission International accreditation.

PHILANTHROPY

School of Pharmacy philanthropic support increases in a tough economy

By Richard Weismeyer

It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child. Well, in the current economic climate, it takes many philanthropic supporters to maintain the School of Pharmacy.

The philanthropic story at the School of Pharmacy began in 1997 with donor Richard Chao presenting a gift of \$500,000 to the fledgling school. With those seed funds, the School was able to make capital improvements including the construction of a pharmaceutical sciences laboratory in the Chan Shun Pavilion.

"In 2002, we started seeing several of the retail

pharmaceutical chains becoming involved in supporting our School through scholarship support and funding student events," says Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, director of development and alumni affairs and assistant professor of pharmacy law.

"Walgreens has been one of the School's most consistent supporters over the past several years," says Mr. Pinder. "A recent contribution provided funding for a student laboratory."

In addition, Walmart has provided generous support for the School's annual Whitecoat Ceremony followed by dinner for the graduating students.

Another company providing support to the School of Pharmacy is the Allergan Pharmaceutical Company and the Allergan Foundation with funds for equipment and funding for post-doctoral fellows at the School in the research area.

"With the School's young alumni base unable to support the School as they will be able to do in future years, we must look to additional sources," Mr. Pinder continues.

"We do see our alumni as a critical base of support in future years. To date, 12 percent of our alumni are supporting the School through annual giving. We feel this level of support is very good considering that the School has only had four graduating classes. The School has put together a program that the administration feels will yield exceptional benefits in future years.

"The Dean and the School's administration feel that the philanthropic future of the School will be in large part due to loyal alumni," Mr. Pinder says. "The School provides many amenities to the students throughout the school year and at graduation."

Continuing in the philanthropic support of the organization are the School of Pharmacy faculty. "In 2007, when we first approached the faculty about an annual giving program, 17 percent chose to support the School," Mr. Pinder explains. "However, the following year (2008) when we made another appeal to faculty, 53 percent of our faculty supported the School through an annual giving program. We expect even greater participation from our next appeal."

For information on School of Pharmacy philanthropic opportunities, contact Mr. Pinder at (909) 558-4967. TODAY

RESEARCH

LLU research: Mental health affects diabetes care

By Heather Reifsnyder

The mental health of Medi-Cal patients diagnosed with diabetes can adversely affect the quality of diabetes care they obtain, according to new research out of Loma Linda University published online this month by the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Paper publication is expected in July.

An increased risk of diabetes and sub-optimal diabetes care is often linked with serious mental illness. By assessing diabetes prevalence and care among Medi-Cal patients treated through the County of San Bernardino Department of

Behavioral Health, the researchers determined that receiving poorer diabetes care was associated with:

- More serious psychiatric symptoms
- Treatment with second-generation antipsychotic (SGA) prescription drugs, and
- Receiving psychiatric care solely in public mental health clinics.

Diabetes care was measured by whether patients were receiving hemoglobin testing, lipid testing, and eye examinations—tests that

experts recommend at least once yearly for those with diabetes.

Medi-Cal mental health services are separately funded and operationally independent of physical health services, meaning that patients who need both must seek care in two systems.

"Unfortunately, patients having both physical and mental health problems, especially if they have more serious mental illness, are going to be less likely to initiate and follow through on routine diabetes care and may be considered as difficult primary care patients," notes Jim Banta, PhD, MPH, lead researcher and assistant professor in the department of health policy and management at Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

The study found that when patients received

psychiatric care from a fee-for-service psychiatrist—as opposed to only in a mental health clinic—they also received better diabetes care, even though that diabetes care was probably from a different doctor. Unfortunately, the data was not able to tell why there was a difference.

One of the practical implications of the study is that extra effort must be spent to ensure that patients on SGA medications receive necessary medical screenings at least once a year.

"The fact that these patients are less likely to get screenings shows that they are slipping through the cracks," says Dr. Banta. "Just because they have mental health problems, these Medi-Cal patients shouldn't be put at higher risk for blindness, organ damage, and premature death due to potentially lower quality primary care."

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Senior Recital and Benefit Concert

Violinist Alexander Knecht will perform works by Brahms, Sibelius, and more...

Special guests will include young people from LLU community music program, CKC-Music

LLUC Campus Chapel
June 14, 7:00 p.m.
Donations benefit CKC-Music.
For info contact CAPS
at (909) 651-5011 or <caps@llu.edu>.

RESEARCH GRANT

Pharmacy professor receives \$25,000 research grant from Lundbeck, Inc.

By Richard Weismeyer



Receiving a check for \$25,000 is Jack. J. Chen (third from left), PharmD, associate professor, movement disorder clinic, School of Pharmacy. The check was presented by Mercedes Maruscak, MSN (left), senior medical science liaison, Lundbeck, Inc. The grant was presented to Dr. Chan for a research project on tetrabenazine (a recently approved FDA drug for Huntington's chorea). Dr. Chan and his colleagues will review the drug for its efficacy and safety in the treatment of various hyperkinetic movement disorders including Huntington's chorea, dystonias, tardive dyskinesia, and Tourette's syndrome. Pictured with Ms. Maruscak and Dr. Chen are Billy Hughes, PhD (second from left), dean, School of Pharmacy; David Swope, MD (second from right), associate professor of neurology; and Khashayar Dashitpour MD, PhD (right), instructor of neurology. Drs. Swope and Dashitpour are co-investigators in the project.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

IDP professor receives Teacher of the Year award for fourth straight year

By Doug Hackleman

Dr. Klaus Wolfram, SD'71, MS'73, West German immigrant by way of Canada (1958) and the United States Army (1960-1963), was awarded the International Dental Program (IDP) Teacher of the Year for the fourth consecutive year.

Because young Klaus was "bored in Berlin," Dr. Wolfram now recalls, he travelled to Canada in 1958. After two years there he took advantage of the opportunity to fast track into American citizenship in exchange for three years of US Army service, during which he served in the Medical Corps and rose to the rank of sergeant.

The Medical Corps piqued his interest in health

care, which led him to complete a pre-dental program at Los Angeles City College. After earning his doctor of dental surgery degree and finishing Loma Linda University School of Dentistry's advanced education program in periodontics, Dr. Wolfram taught at the School on Fridays for the next decade, until his private practice demands made teaching impractical.

Dr. Wolfram returned to the School and its department of periodontics full time in 1991, and he was assigned to the international dentist program in 2005.

At the IDP graduation banquet in March, Rowena Gbenoba, SD'09, a graduating Filipino IDP student, made a tribute to Dr. Wolfram as she presented him the award. "Just a couple of



Rowena Gbenoba, DDS (left), presents Klaus Wolfram, DDS, MS, with the international dentistry program's Teacher of the Year award for 2009.

days before the board exam," Dr. Gbenoba recalled, Dr. Wolfram "looked me in the eye and said, 'Don't you dare mess up the boards or I will send my goons to hunt you down.' That was the most loving threat I have ever heard in my entire life."

Dr. Gbenoba concluded, "Thank you, doctor, for sharing with us the wisdom of your years and for being the kind of person that you are. You have taught me that teaching isn't really payback time but a chance to pay it forward." TODAY

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

School of Nursing thanks friends with Kathryn Jensen Nelson Brunch

By Dustin R. Jones, MA

Each year, the School of Nursing celebrates its friends and supporters with the Kathryn Jensen Nelson Society Brunch. This year, the School held its annual brunch on April 12.

"The KJN Brunch was a huge success with a great program," says Carrie Bryner, MBA, director of development, School of Nursing.

The KJN Brunch, named after one of the School of Nursing founders, honors those who give \$250 or more to the School of Nursing during the previous year.

"We had one of the best turnouts we have ever had, and I consider myself extremely lucky to be a part of the School of Nursing team," says Ms. Bryner. "I already miss everyone and their smiling faces. Thank you for sharing the special day with us."

The morning brunch began with a welcome from Marilyn Herrmann, PhD, RN, dean of the School of Nursing.

Dynnette E. Hart, DrPH, RN, associate dean of the undergraduate program, offered prayer, and the guests were dismissed for brunch.

Following the meal, Dr. Herrmann gave a report of how the School has performed over

the past year. The School of Nursing had an especially busy year overseas this year, completing two master's programs in Thailand and South Africa.

Mana Manoukian then provided the special music with an adaptation of "Jesus Loves Me" based on Claude Debussy's "Claire De Lune."

Dr. Hart then interviewed Maria Valencia, a School of Nursing undergraduate student who revealed that she is the first person in her family to attend college. Ms. Valencia told the audience that it was because of their support that she could have a better life with her family.

Elizabeth Bossert, DNS, RN, associate dean of the graduate program, interviewed a graduate student, Lisa Simpson. Ms. Simpson was also a winner of the Merit Scholarship at the School of Nursing alumni banquet the previous night.

To close out the program, a video presentation was shown featuring the master's program in Thailand. The video was produced by the office of University relations as part of the Loma Linda 360° show.

For information on how to become a member of the Kathryn Jensen Nelson Society, please contact Carrie Bryner at (909) 651-5032 or <kbryner@llu.edu>. TODAY



Helanejo Nielsen Sheline and Wanda Alves Vertrees, both members of the class of 1949, pose for a picture during the KJN Brunch.

PHILANTHROPY

School of Dentistry Dean's Circle celebrates 20 years of philanthropic

Contributed report

During its 56-year history, personal and corporate philanthropy have played an essential role in the development and progress of the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

Generous individual and collective gifts have helped fund additions to Prince Hall, outfit and equip clinic cubicles, renovate classrooms and laboratories, establish student scholarships, create two endowed professorships, and many other projects.

This year the School of Dentistry celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Dean's Circle, a group whose generous leadership has been a vital part of this culture of philanthropy. A dinner on May 14 at the Summit House Restaurant in

Fullerton marked the occasion. Members include alumni, faculty, staff, and other friends who are recognized for their annual sustaining gifts of \$1,500 or more.

The Dean's Circle includes 231 current members. Of the original 44 charter members, 27 are living and 22 (81 percent) still support the Dean's Circle.

There is still time to be included in this group and attend the upcoming dinner. If you've already made a gift this year, you can still upgrade it and be included. For more information, please contact Rachel Terwilligar, director of development, at (909) 558-4969.

Gifts may be made by check, credit card (in person, by telephone or online), or through payroll deduction. TODAY



Guests share a moment of laughter before the KJN Brunch held April 12.

DEDICATION AND SERVICE

Executive director of medical records retires after more than 40 years

By James Ponder



How do you thank someone for serving the needs of the patients, physicians, and staff of Loma Linda University Medical Center for 42 years? By throwing a party, of course, and inviting nearly everyone in California to attend. That’s what happened on April 30, 2009, when Rita Stiffler, executive director of medical records and health information management, stepped down from her post after more than four decades of service.

Friends, colleagues, family members, and administrators—such as Steve Mohr, CPA, MBA, senior vice president for finance, seen here with Ms. Stiffler—stopped by the Stater Bros. Conference Room at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital to wish Ms. Stiffler well and to commend her for an outstanding career characterized by dedication and commitment far beyond the call of duty.

FUNDRAISER FOR CHILDREN

‘K-FROG Cares Golf Classic’ to benefit LLU Children’s Hospital

By Nancy Yuen, MA

An unforgettable experience is being planned for golfing enthusiasts and country music fans—the “K-FROG Cares Golf Classic.” The event will be held Thursday, June 18, 2009, at the Journey at Pechanga, a golf resort in Temecula. Proceeds will benefit Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital.

The day will begin with a round of golf at the new Temecula course, Journey at Pechanga. Golfers of all skill levels will enjoy the stunning course set against the backdrop of a boulder-strewn mountain, oak trees, panoramic vistas, and more than seven miles of cart paths.

Golfing will be followed by contests, dinner, and an auction. The day will conclude with a concert featuring live performances by Nashville

recording artists: Richie McDonald (formerly lead singer of “Lonestar”) and Jack Ingram, in the 1,200 person venue at Pechanga Resort.

K-FROG radio personalities Scott and Tommy will host the event. “Jack Ingram and Richie McDonald are great country artists,” says Scott. “They have generously agreed to team up with us this year to host a concert to help support kids at LLU Children’s Hospital.”

Tommy sums up the reason for all of the hard work preparing for the classic. “It’s hard to be a parent and to know that kids at Children’s Hospital are going through serious illnesses. We are honored to be a part of this wonderful event that benefits these children.”

For more information about this event, visit KFROG.com and click on the golf link. TODAY



The Journey at Pechanga, site of the “K-FROG Cares Golf Classic”

FUNDRAISER FOR CHILDREN

Loma Linda Fire Department pancake breakfast benefits LLUCH

By Nancy Yuen, MA

Crowds gathered behind yellow safety tape to watch as a rescue worker raised a hatchet and smashed it into a car’s windshield. The safety glass held together, crackling into a broken, shiny, flexible sheet that draped away from the window. Another firefighter then picked up the jaws of life—the tool’s giant pinchers melting through the roof of the car as easily as if it were made of paper.

There were no victims trapped inside though—the auto extraction was part of the 2009 Loma Linda Firefighters’ Association pancake breakfast Sunday, May 17. “I want to be a firefighter,” a boy in the watching crowd confidently announced to his dad as firefighters lifted away one of the car’s doors as easily as if it were a child’s toy.

Other firefighters were showing off their culinary skills. In addition to pancakes (the batter was donated by Mimi’s Café) and hot drinks (provided by Starbucks), guests dined on scrambled eggs (from MOZARK ranch) and breakfast links (donated by Stater Bros. Markets and Loma Linda Market). A complete list of sponsors appears at the end of the story.

The event was perfect for families—kids scrambled into fire trucks, their parents keeping cameras clicking as they captured colorful, fun photos. Everyone was entertained by life-size stuffed animal characters: Sparky the fire dog and McGruff the crimefighting dog.

Several kids came dressed in their own play fire-

fighters’ costumes and each child left with a toy fire helmet and stickers from the police and fire departments.

According to fire department engineer Mike Atchison, more than 600 people purchased \$5 tickets for the event. When combined with sales from raffle tickets and T-shirts, the event brought in \$3,300.

Making the event possible were 24 volunteers from the Loma Linda Fire Department; 20 from the San Bernardino County Fire Department, 8 from the Colton Fire Department, and 10 from LLU Children’s Hospital.

The pancake breakfast is the station’s biggest fundraiser of the year.

Loma Linda firefighter Josh Cartee says, “Our department enjoyed working with staff from Children’s Hospital Foundation to plan this event to benefit the community. The pancake breakfast is a great way for us to give back, while meeting some of the many people we are here to serve.”

Michael Sepulveda, Loma Linda firefighter/paramedic, agrees. “The pancake breakfast was a great way for us to help the community. We are fortunate to have a hospital just for kids in our city; we are grateful to be able to support LLU Children’s Hospital.”

Sponsors include: Stater Bros. Market; Loma Linda Market; Pancake House of Loma Linda; Del Taco; Starbucks; Mimi’s Restaurant; and Driftwood Dairy. TODAY



Engineer Mulhall and firefighter Boucher cook up some pancakes for the crowds.



Loma Linda firefighters demonstrate an auto extraction using the jaws of life as pancake breakfast attendees look on.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY School of Medicine Commencement 2009



Stephen R. Covey, MBA, DRE, co-founder and vice chairman of FranklinCovey, Inc., delivers the keynote address to Loma Linda University School of Medicine class of 2009 on Sunday, May 24, 2009. Dr. Covey's talk, titled "Developing a Principle-Centered Culture through Moral-Authority Leadership and Complementary Teams," reaffirmed the importance of moral and spiritual values.



From left, members of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine class of 2009 Chansa Cha, MD; Danielle Chan, MD; Emilie Chang, MD; Paul Kim, MD; and Robert Chang, MD, repeat the Physician's Oath near the conclusion of their graduation ceremonies on Sunday, May 24, 2009.



It's leis and smiles all around as (left to right) Kenny Jahng, MD, Minhthy Nguyen, MD, and Jesse Liu, MD, celebrate their graduation from the Loma Linda University School of Medicine Class of 2009.



Stephen Ashwal, MD, chief of pediatric neurology at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and distinguished professor of pediatrics and of neurology at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine (LLUSM), receives the Distinguished University Service Award from H. Roger Hadley, MD, dean of LLUSM, and Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPh, president of Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center, as Ronald L. Carter, PhD, provost of Loma Linda University, and other members of the faculty applaud.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY School of Pharmacy Commencement 2009



With exuberance born of years of diligent study, Michelle Meegie Kim, PharmD, salutes classmates, family, and friends at 2009 graduation ceremonies for the School of Pharmacy.



In reciting the oath of a pharmacist, Tania Lucinian, PharmD, promises to devote herself to a life of service to others through the profession of pharmacy. "I take these vows voluntarily," the oath concludes.



Olukorede Ajiboye, PharmD (center), celebrates her graduation from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy with members of her family. Dr. Ajiboye was one of 55 members of the class of 2009 who graduated on Sunday, May 24.



Friends and faculty members surround a beaming Amy Sanchez as she receives her hood during the 2009 School of Pharmacy Hooding Ceremony on Friday, May 22. William Hughes, PhD (center), dean of the School of Pharmacy, and Paul Norris, PharmD (right), associate dean for clinical affairs, prepare the hood.



The giant card in the arms of a member of his family celebrates the fact that Ben Do, PharmD, just graduated from the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. The card reads, "Congrats Mr. Seven. We love you." Dr. Do received his degree on Sunday, May 24, 2009.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY School of Dentistry Commencement 2009



Joni Stephens, EdS, MS, professor, department of dental hygiene, gave the invocation.



Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president, Loma Linda University, welcomed graduates, faculty, family, and friends.



Surrounded on three sides by the Loma Linda University Medical Center, the LLU School of Dentistry, and the LLU Church, the awarding of 188 degrees and certificates by the School of Dentistry proceeded as planned. Ninety graduated with the doctor of dental surgery degree; 42 with the bachelor of science in dental hygiene degree; 20 with the doctor of dental surgery degree through the International Dentist Program; and 36 with advanced education degrees.



The Teacher of the Year award, established for faculty who have made an extraordinary impact on students, peers, and the School in general, was given to Kenneth R. Wright, PhD, faculty of graduate studies and associate professor, pathology and human anatomy, School of Medicine.



For outstanding contributions to research, Yiming Li, DDS, PhD, director, Center for Dental Research, was presented the School Distinguished Research Award.



Steven Morrow, SD '60, MS, director of patient care services and clinical quality assurance, received the Distinguished Service Award.



Stephen R. Covey, MBA, DRE, co-founder and vice chair of Franklin-Covey, Inc., delivers the keynote address to the School of Dentistry class of 2009.

OUTREACH

Loma Linda University students conduct health clinic in Cameroon

Contributed report

Nine students and two faculty members traveled to Cameroon during spring break this year to participate in a week-long health clinic at Buea Adventist Clinic and Hospital.

The student-led team worked closely with the local church members as well as with two visiting physicians and three visiting dentists.

After arriving at the hotel in Douala, Cameroon, the group happened to run into Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University, and his wife, Judy, who were in Cameroon for board meetings. Accompanying Dr. and Mrs. Hart was Donn

Gaede, DrPH, assistant professor, School of Public Health.

Buea Adventist Clinic and Hospital is operated by Adventist Health International (AHI), a non-government organization based in Loma Linda, California, of which Dr. Hart also serves as president. Dr. Gaede serves as secretary of AHI.

"Travel to and from Cameroon went smoothly," says Jan Nick, PhD, RNC, associate professor of nursing, School of Nursing. "The experience was uplifting, and we all came back praising God for the opportunity to go, work among the Cameroonians and learn from them, understand another culture, and heal the phys-



Denise Hinds, a School of Public Health student, leads out in a learning exercise with members of the Buea community.

ical, social, and spiritual needs of the community just as Jesus did."

The students responsible for community education included Nicolette LaRondelle, School of Allied Health Professions; Terry-Ann Dawes and Laura Foster, School of Medicine; Aiyana Davison, Melissa Lukman, and Maria Valencia, School of Nursing; and Kate Reinsma, Denise Hinds, and Tina Pruna, School of Public Health.

The physicians included Greg Shank, MD, a Loma Linda University graduate and medical director of Koza Adventist Hospital in a remote part of northern Cameroon. Koza Adventist Hospital is also operated by AHI. Accompanying Dr. Shank was his wife, Audrey Shank, MD, who is also a Loma Linda graduate.

The Shanks provided free medical consultations to the community. Additionally, two visiting

Cameroonian dentists and a dental assistant from Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon, were on site to provide free clinic services.

The local church and clinic staff provided logistics support for crowd movement—getting the patients in and out of the physician and dental clinics, or the student-led community education classes. The local staff also provided spiritual counseling and translation services as needed into French or pidgin.

Josué Epame, MBA, a Loma Linda University School of Public Health graduate and country director of AHI-Cameroon, requested staff educational materials on how to set up child-birth classes for the community, as well as develop health informatics.

In response, Dr. Nick and Krista Loveman, MS, RN, who works at the Perinatal Insti- Please turn to page 8

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OUTREACH

SPH students volunteer at African First Ladies Health Summit

Contributed report

Five public health students became part of a select group of volunteers at the inaugural African First Ladies Health Summit, which brought together leading women and dignitaries from numerous African nations on April 20 and 21 in Los Angeles.

"The closed summit served as an avenue for the first ladies to meet and discuss health care issues in their various countries," says Ajarat Bada, who volunteered, along with four other students from the department of global health: Markisha Key-Hagan, Susanne Simon, Gina Newell, and Nkiruka Ojukwu.

The event was organized by U.S. Doctors for Africa, a non-profit organization based in California, and African Synergy, headquartered in Cameroon.

After hearing about the event from Ms. Key-Hagan, the five students applied to be volunteers. Officials interviewed them by phone and

performed background checks before selecting them to work at the event.

Their volunteer experience began April 19 when they met with African dignitaries and protocol officers from about 17 nations who were checking in and had come to take a tour of the Skirball Cultural Center in preparation for the next day's event.

On April 20, Maria Shriver, the first lady of California, declared the closed summit open.

First ladies attending the summit included Ida Odinga, wife of the Kenyan prime minister; Hadjia Laraba Tandja of Niger; Penhupifo Pohamba of Namibia; Thandiwe Banda of Zambia; Maria da Luz Dai Guebuza of Mozambique; Mathato Sarah Mosisili of Lesotho; Sia Nyama Koroma of Sierra Leone; Adelcia Barreto Pires of Cape Verde; Chantal Biya of Cameroon; Ana Paula Dos Santos of Angola; Queen Inkhosikati LaMbikiza of Swaziland; and Dr. Turai Umaru Yar'Adua of Nigeria.



Pictured from left are Nkiruka Ojukwu, Gina Newell, Ted Alemayhu (executive director of U.S. Doctors for Africa), Susanne Simon, Markisha Key-Hagan, and Ajarat Bada.

The LLU students were given different tasks to do during the event. Ms. Simon assisted the first lady of Mozambique, while Ms. Key-Hagan worked with the first lady of Swaziland. Ms. Ojukwu and Ms. Newell worked in logistics, and Ms. Bada worked in registration.

Ms. Bada reports they spent two busy days working and meeting people before the final gala on April 21. Dignitaries and celebrities attending included Sarah Brown (wife of the British prime

minister), Sharon Stone, Billy Zane, Chris Tucker, Natalie Cole, and Paris Hilton.

Sponsors included Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Africare, Global Health Council, RAND Corporation, Pfizer, Vital Voices, Until There's a Cure, the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, QIAGEN, White Ribbon Alliance, the GEANCO foundation, WHO, Dalberg, AllAfrica.com, and Children's Safe Drinking Water. TODAY

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Incoming APA president visits department of psychiatry

By Heather Reifsnyder

The incoming president of the American Psychiatric Association (APA), Alan Schatzberg, MD, visited Loma Linda University May 8, 2009, and met with residents and physicians from the department of psychiatry. He then assumed presidency of the 38,000-member APA during its annual meeting, held May 16-21 in San Francisco.

Dr. Schatzberg, a well-known investigator in the biology and psychopharmacology of anxiety and depressive disorders, spoke for the department of psychiatry's weekly grand rounds, discussing the topic "Recent and Future Advances in Anti-Depressant Therapy: Implications for the Future of Psychiatry."

Dr. Schatzberg's presentation touched on issues such as pharmacogenetics and somatic treatments for depression, including techniques such as transcranial magnetic stimulation, which the department of psychiatry recently began providing.

"It's of great interest to have the APA president here to speak on the treatment of depression and also to comment on the major issues facing American medicine and psychiatry," says George Harding, MD, professor of psychiatry.

After grand rounds, Dr. Schatzberg met informally with many of Loma Linda University Medical Center's 34 psychiatry residents. "We had a very energetic discussion," says Dr. Harding. "A lot of stimulating questions were asked about the treatment of depression."

Dr. Schatzberg is a professor and chairman of the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University. He has written or edited more than 200 publications, including the *Manual of Clinical Psychopharmacology* and the *Textbook of Psychopharmacology*.

It is a tradition in the department of psychiatry to invite the current APA president to speak to its residents and faculty. In 2010, the campus will welcome president-elect Carol Bernstein, MD, of Boston. TODAY



Alan Schatzberg, MD (background, center), discusses the treatment of depression with Loma Linda University Medical Center's psychiatry residents.

Loma Linda University students conduct health clinic in Cameroon...

Continued from page 7

tute/Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, gave a week-long workshop to the clinic nurses and visiting midwives while the students conducted community education classes.

Dr. Nick and Ms. Loveman also visited the University of Buca, where they spoke to the nursing and medical students.

On the final day of their stay, the Loma Linda University team visited a local orphanage and handed out toothbrushes, balloons, and toys.

"To say thank you to us, the children sang a special song, while one of the orphan children beat out the tempo on an African drum," describes Dr. Nick. "It was a very moving experience." TODAY



Students, faculty, and administrators from Loma Linda University pose with Josué Epame, MBA (right), country director for Adventist Health International-Cameroon.

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MEDICAL ETHICS

Center for Christian Bioethics holds second annual ethics essay contest

By Dustin R. Jones, MA

Prolific writers across the campus of Loma Linda University are about to sharpen their pencils. Starting this quarter, the Center for Christian Bioethics is accepting entries into its annual Clarit s, Clarity in Ethics Essay Contest.

The essay should be no more than 1,500 words in length on a topic chosen by the Center for Christian Bioethics. The topic for 2009 is "Health Care: Business or Service?" Any active, full-time student in any graduate or undergraduate program on campus may enter the contest.

All essays will have personal and program identity masked before the judges read it. The judges will evaluate the essay in the following areas: grammar, structure, and format; clarity of the student's position on the topic at hand; recognition of alternative positions on the topic

at hand; and strength of the student's position in relation to alternative positions.

The judges will narrow the field to the top two undergraduate essays and top two graduate essays. The undergraduate finalists will be judged entirely by the associates of the Center and ranked as first and second place winners.

The graduate finalists will read their papers at the Center for Christian Bioethics Contributor's Convocation. After they both have read their papers, the contributors will convene to vote on winner and runner-up status. A simple majority vote will decide winner and runner-up status.

Winners must be present at chapel for presentation of their award.

The undergraduate winner of the contest will



receive an award of \$1,000 and 20,000 miles credit toward a ticket on Alaska Airlines; the undergraduate runner up will receive \$1,000. The winner of the graduate competition will receive \$2,000 and 40,000 miles of Alaska Airlines credit. The graduate runner up will receive \$1,250.

Deadline for submission of essays is October 22, 2009, and the Center's Contributor's

Convocation is scheduled for November 7, 2009. Authors must be present to win the award.

The Clarit s, Clarity in Ethics Essay Contest is sponsored by Loma Linda University Center for Christian Bioethics.

Please send completed essays in pdf form to <dpagordon@llu.edu>. TODAY

COMMUNITY ACTION

Students present emergency preparedness seminar in wake of H1N1

Contributed report

It was no ordinary class project for global health students from the School of Public Health, who were bombarded with questions from West Side neighborhood community members who attended an emergency preparedness information session at the Temple Community Outreach Center (TCOC) in San Bernardino.

The program was part of a primary health care class project. This three-part course asks students to investigate a need in their community, create a program to fill that need, and implement it. From surveys and individual communication, the students found that a need in the San Bernardino community was emergency preparedness training. As one community member put it, "We don't know what to do or where to go if an earthquake happens."

The students initially prepared their seminar to primarily target earthquake and pandemic flu preparedness. However, the recent H1N1 (swine flu) scare promoted them to gear their seminar in that direction as well, reports Ajarat Bada, who worked alongside the other students in the group: Myung-Mi Cho, Gretchen Battle, Holly Schuh, Tehani Mundy, Atinuke (Sarat) Shittu, and Serah Iheasirim.

The students gave the seminar with the assistance of staff from the LLU Center for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP), especially Burton Clark and Maurice "Tony" Adkins, MPH, who gave presentations.

Mr. Clark presented on CERT—Community Emergency Response Team—a U.S. initiative to empower community members with the knowledge and tools that they need to be able to assist as first responders in an emergency.

Mr. Adkins, a recent graduate of the School of Public Health on staff at the CPHP, presented on influenza H1N1 (swine flu) and was overwhelmed with questions from the attendees.

"It was really nice to see people's interest and commitment in their communities," says Ms. Bada. "The response was positive and overwhelming. We were able to get a lot of volunteers who were willing to be involved in helping their communities prepare for emergencies.

"Many more have expressed interest and began training to be part of the CERT team starting on the last Thursday in May," she continues.

These seminars will be taking place every Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the TCOC in San Bernardino. TODAY

Mental health affects diabetes care...

Continued from page 3

In addition to Dr. Banta, the other study authors were Scott W. Lee, MD, of the department of internal medicine at Loma Linda University School of Medicine; Mark G. Haviland, PhD, of the department of psychiatry at Loma Linda University School of Medicine; and Elaine H. Morrato, DrPH, MPH, of the department of health systems, management, and policy, Colorado School of Public Health, University of Colorado, Denver, and department of clinical pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, University of Colorado, Denver.

"Eight years ago as both a statistician in the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health and a doctoral student at UCLA, I was intrigued by the idea of merging mental and physical health data to study the total health of psychiatric patients," says Dr. Banta. "After obtaining a grant from the Loma Linda University School of Public Health and official permission from four different government entities to get such data, it is very gratifying to work with a good team and after much effort to finally see results published in a respectable medical journal." TODAY

PRECEPTOR TRAINING



Contributed report

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy hosted a Preceptor Conference on May 6 in the Wong Kerlee International Conference Center. Zubin Austin, PhD, University of Toronto, spoke about "Teaching and Learning Motivational Interviewing Skills." The program provided pharmacists an illustration of the importance of making a patient feel comfortable, and also illustrated strategies they can use to encourage open, honest, uncensored communication. Forty-one individuals attended the event. Pictured are (from left) Mark Buckton, PharmD, Walgreens preceptor; Zubin Austin, PhD, presenter; and Reza Taheri, PharmD, chair, department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science.

FREE SEMINAR

Loma Linda University Church hosts 'How to die right and live to tell about it' seminar

By James Ponder

How to die right and live to tell about it" is the provocative title of a unique and free spiritual growth seminar offered by the Loma Linda University Church on Saturday, June 27, 2009, during morning worship, and from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Seminar leaders Clarence and Dianna Schilt—a retired pastor and school teacher, respectively—will share their personal stories of liberation from failed attempts at self-gratification and self-improvement, and offer insights they discovered into how to experience victorious Christian living on a daily basis.

In sharing their stories, the Schilts recognize

that not many pastors or their wives would be willing to risk the degree of personal transparency required to share the details of their intimate journeys toward spiritual wholeness with others, but they acknowledge that what they found has proven transformational for others and needs to be shared.

According to Mike Jones, former editor of *Insight*, Pastor Schilt "ranks in the top 10 percent of outstanding speakers I have heard over the years in the Adventist Church." The Schilts have presented their transformational seminar at a number of camp meetings, pastor's retreats, and church services in the past few years.

Who should attend? According to a press release issued by the seminar, anyone who wants to "end the frenzied struggle to satisfy insatiable wants," yet is tired, sick or burned out from self-help formulas and "living for a few fleeting moments of pleasure," is invited to attend. There is no charge for the seminar.

The Loma Linda University Church is located on the corner of Campus Street and University Avenue in Loma Linda. TODAY

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Children's Day makes health the hot topic for kids

By James Ponder

How do you turn health into a hot topic for kids? If you were in the vicinity of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) on Wednesday, May 13, 2009, you simply had to bring them to the 24th annual Children's Day; once there, the kids were entertained, educated, and inspired to make taking care of their health a lifelong commitment.

According to Dorothy Clark Brooks, LLUCH child life specialist and coordinator of the event, 1,235 people attended Children's Day, which was held on the lawn between Prince Hall, Coleman Pavilion, and the University Church. The number is down from last year's atten-

dance, but Ms. Brooks says that the recent widely reported H1N1 virus scare is probably the reason more children did not attend this year. Even so, those who came were treated to live demonstrations—including the snake safety booth featuring Sean Bush, MD, and dozens of his slithery friends—and lots of handouts to remind the kids of the importance of health.

"We're grateful to everyone who helped make this such a special day for the kids," Ms. Brooks observes. She especially commended the management and employees of Farmer Boys restaurants for sponsoring the event and providing free snacks to attendees, as well as Jamba Juice, which brought 2,400 free drinks for participants. TODAY



With a little help from his assistant and a very large albino boa constrictor, Sean Bush, MD, Loma Linda University Medical Center's celebrated emergency physician/venomology expert, explains the finer points of snake etiquette to attendees of the 24th annual Children's Day on Wednesday, May 13, 2009. Among the insights he shared: most snakebites occur when humans try to capture, harass, or kill venomous reptiles.

COMMUNITY CLINIC

Large crowd celebrates opening of Ophthalmology at Riverwalk

By James Ponder

A crowd estimated at 150 individuals packed the halls of the new Loma Linda University Health Care Ophthalmology at Riverwalk on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, for grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

According to Patti Mena, refractive surgery coordinator, the new facility will serve as a satellite center to allow physicians in the LLUHC department of ophthalmology to widen their circle of service to the Riverside geographic area.

"We were very gratified," observes Howard V. Gimbel, MD, MPH, FRCSC, chair of the ophthalmology department, "by the wonderful turn-out at the event.

Not only were the grand opening ceremonies attended by numerous members of the LLUHC family, but also by representatives of the Riverside Chamber of Commerce, La Sierra University, community physicians and optometrists, and a number of our patients and friends from Riverside and La Sierra." He adds, "We couldn't have asked for a more supportive crowd."

The new center features the latest in ophthalmologic technology designed to heighten not only the healing and restorative processes, but also patient comfort.

"What makes this office unique is to find this amount of state-of-the-art, high-level diagnostic equipment in a community-based facility," Dr. Gimbel explains. "Typically, one finds this only in large, hospital-based eye institutes."

He continues, "This allows us to have highly specialized ophthalmologists treating diseases such as glaucoma, macular degeneration, retinal disorders, cataracts, and ocular pathology, as well as providing general eye health examinations."

"It's really quite remarkable!" he smiles.

Ophthalmology at Riverwalk is conveniently located in Riverside at 4244 Riverwalk Parkway, Suite 100, just a few blocks off the 91 Freeway at the Pierce Street exit.

For appointment information, please call (909) 558-2154. TODAY



Medical ophthalmologist Patrick McCaffery, MD, tests a new examination unit during the Ophthalmology at Riverwalk open house on "patient" (actually, technician) Alice Ortega during the ribbon-cutting celebration at the new facility in Riverside. The event took place on Wednesday, April 15, 2009.



If the scissors in the hands of Howard V. Gimbel, MD, MPH, FRCSC, chair of the LLU department of ophthalmology, look heavy, that's because they are. Dr. Gimbel bravely held them in place for photos before cutting the ribbon held by colleagues Michael E. Rauser, MD, vice chair for clinical affairs (left), and Ernest Zane, MD, vice chair for academic affairs. According to Dr. Gimbel, the new Ophthalmology at Riverwalk brings high-tech, state-of-the-art equipment normally found only in hospital-based eye institutes to the community-based facility. Despite the weight of the hefty scissors, Dr. Gimbel deftly cut the ribbon on the first try.



The grounds of the recently opened Loma Linda University Heart & Surgical Hospital are exploding with flowers this spring. The Matilija poppy depicted here takes its name from Chief Matilija, legendary leader of the Chumash tribe of Native American Indians. The crinkly white flower, one of the showiest of California native wildflowers, grows in front of the new hospital.

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

Lee Anne Gridley lines up the ducks at the Toyota Learning Center

By James Ponder

The students at the Toyota Learning Center inside Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital may not realize it, but their teacher—Lee Anne Gridley, MA, CCLS, director of the school and educator-in-chief to an ever-changing group of hospitalized students—just might be one of the busiest people in the country.

From the moment she arrives in the morning until she walks out the door (and sometimes after that), Ms. Gridley is obsessed with helping her students obtain the very best educational instruction they can while under her care.

Right now, she’s reaching for the door at the end of the day. On the way home, she’ll stop at Best Buy to pick up a scientific calculator so one of her students, a 12th grader in an advanced placement calculus class, will be able to keep up with her classmates back at school. Later, when most people are relaxing after dinner, Ms. Gridley will be thinking about ways to involve a shy kindergartener in tomorrow’s reading assignment.

It’s 11:25 a.m. now, and Ms. Gridley is preparing for her second class of the day.

“I teach two classes every morning in the Learning Center,” she explains. “At 10:15, students from unit 4800 come down for classes. Then at 11:30, the acute care children—from units 5100, 5200, 5300, and 4200—come in. I average around five students per class, but have had as many as 11 at a time.”

Her assistant, Sheila Pagel, is up on the units taking the classroom to students who must remain in bed.

“Sheila’s invaluable,” Ms. Gridley says. “While I’m seeing kids down here, she’s upstairs all day going from room-to-room with her big learning cart. She takes books to the kids, helps them get started with their assignments, moves on to the next room, then comes back to collect their books and papers when it’s time. There’s not a lot of sitting down.”

Once Ms. Gridley’s downstairs classes finish, she joins Ms. Pagel up on the units. Like the mail, the cycle of education must go through.

The students in the Toyota Learning Center range from kindergarten to the 12th grade. Unlike a typical classroom, where the teacher specializes in one or two subjects offered to one or two grades, the curriculum here calls for Ms. Gridley to offer course-work in a wide range of topics to students of all ages.

“We have advanced placement students who need next-to-nothing in terms of supervision, all the way to kindergartners just learning to read,” she observes. “But I love the challenge.”

Apparently so. Ms. Gridley has been teaching for 22 years. “I worked in the Jurupa Unified School District before I came here,” she explains.

How she came to work at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital is what Ms. Gridley refers to as “a God story.”

“I was working on my certified child life specialist training at La Verne,” she recalls. “We had some speakers from Loma Linda who mentioned they were going to need a teacher. Since I had already done some volunteering here, and found that I like the hospital setting, I decided to look into it.”

God stories have a way of working out for the best. “This is my sixth year here,” she notes.

No matter how much they might enjoy a longer relationship with their students, Ms. Gridley and Ms. Pagel only get to work with each one for three weeks.

“We’re placed here by the county for short-term patients,” she says. “Those who stay up to three weeks. The Redlands Unified School District takes over for kids whose hospitalization requires them to stay longer than that. There is a certain window of time that a student has to live in a school district before they’re considered a resident of the district.”



With her high-wattage smile, Lee Ann Gridley, MA, CCLS, director of the Toyota Learning Center at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital, greets a new student with enthusiasm and excitement. “A lot of ducks have to be in a row,” she maintains, “if a kid is going to learn something new.”

That doesn’t deter Ms. Gridley from addressing each student with the full force of her considerable enthusiasm. Helping children learn is a deeply felt passion, and Ms. Gridley begins each educational encounter with a cheerful greeting and a palpable sense of excitement.

“So much of what we do is geographically driven,” Ms. Gridley offers. She clarifies her statement by pointing out that the layout of the Hospital limits how much she can accomplish at any given time. “We may be visiting a patient in one room talking about algebra,” she explains, “and teaching kids to count in the next.” The point is, she can’t be everywhere at once teaching everybody everything at the same time.

One gets the feeling, however, that the limitation doesn’t stop her from trying.

“Our aim is to see about 20 patients apiece per day,” she says. “How we structure the time we spend with each student depends on age and educational status. The County of San Bernardino requires us to provide an hour of educational activity per day for every child in our care. I have patients working on high school math who need me to go eyeball-to-eyeball for a full hour. But sometimes patients can’t keep their eyes open after 20 minutes.”

In such cases, Ms. Gridley taps the resources of the Learning Center to offer movies, videos, or

educational games on a laptop computer to help the student stay awake and concentrate on learning. “It keeps their minds academically tuned in,” she observes.

What does Ms. Gridley enjoy most about her fast-paced educational outreach to hospitalized children?

“Without a doubt,” she beams, “it’s being with the kids! The ratio of students to teacher here is ideal. The opportunity to genuinely engage in education is a godsend; it’s just wonderful.

“The other thing I really enjoy is being able to work with so many other professionals from different disciplines. I enjoy collaborating with speech pathologists, working with social workers, child life specialists, and all the others”—she pauses for a moment before adding LLUCH Foundation employees, media relations personnel, members of the Guild, and volunteers to the list—“it all adds up to a rich experience!”

Ms. Gridley selects a volume from the Center’s well-stocked library, all donated by volunteers and friends of children, before concluding with one final cogent observation.

“A lot of ducks,” she observes, “have to be lined up in a row if a kid is going to learn something new.” TODAY

NURSING RESEARCH

Transforming practice through research

James Ponder

Transforming practice through research” was the topic of the 10th annual nursing research conference, which was held May 7, 2009, in the Wong Kerlee International Conference Center at Loma Linda University.

Marita G. Titler, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and associate dean for clinical scholarship and practice at the University of Michigan School of Nursing, delivered the keynote address.

Titled “Moving research into practice,” Dr. Titler’s presentation highlighted the role of the clinical nursing staff in evidence-based practice and translational research. She also discussed the roles of nurse leaders and managers using research in clinical practice and provided examples of clinical issues that

have been addressed by integrating research into practice.

According to Patti Radovich, MSN, CNS, FCCM, manager of nursing research at LLU Medical Center (LLUMC), local nurses took advantage of the opportunity to ask questions of one of the world’s leading nurse researchers. Ms. Radovich says Dr. Titler cited examples of how the integration of research into nursing practice resulted in cost savings and improved quality of care in such areas as acute pain management, dietary, infection control, fall prevention, and patient satisfaction.

In addition to serving as coordinator of the conference, Ms. Radovich provided insight into the research process from question initiation to Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. She was followed by Sharon Fabbri, NP, CCRP, a

nurse practitioner at LLUMC, who updated attendees on cardiology research protocols and findings in the LLUMC cardiomyopathy clinic.

Teri Reynolds, RN, of the LLUMC emergency department, spoke on the importance of a program that enhances the accuracy of the emergency room triage system as well as the compassion shown to emergency patients.

The final speaker of the day was Betty Winslow, RN, PhD, professor in the LLU School of Nursing. Dr. Winslow put a human face on nursing research currently being conducted at Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital (SRRSH) in Hangzhou, China. Dr. Winslow’s slide presentation not only spotlighted the nursing research process at SRRSH, but also depicted several of the nurses involved in research.

According to Ms. Radovich, a total of 92 participants attended the conference this year. Afterwards, a variety of favorable comments were received, all of which pointed to the fact that



Marita G. Titler, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and associate dean for clinical scholarship and practice at the University of Michigan School of Nursing, delivered the keynote address at the 10th annual nursing research conference of Loma Linda University on May 7, 2009.

participants felt that the conference’s emphasis on evidence-based practice is making a number of significant contributions at the interface of nursing research and clinical practice. TODAY

NEWS & EVENTS

Crowds cheer ‘topping off’ of new LLUMC–Murrieta

By Herbert Atienza

About 300 people turned out Thursday, May 21, 2009, to witness a milestone in the construction of the new \$211-million Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta.

The crowd broke into applause as a crane hoisted an American flag- and Christmas tree-festooned beam up in the air to “top off” the medical center building that is now under construction.

“Topping off” is a tradition in major construction projects, when construction crews install the last, and usually highest, piece of steel on a building.

The occasion also marked the approach to the halfway point in construction of the new 106-bed hospital, set for completion in late 2010 and with a projected opening date of early 2011.

“Loma Linda is recognized as a world-wide leader in providing health care,” Murrieta Mayor Gary Thomasian said. “This means our community will have world-class medical service.”

Loma Linda University Medical Center, one of the nation’s leading teaching and research medical centers, and Physicians Group of Murrieta, LLC, a consortium of doctors from southwest Riverside County, are developing the medical campus.

Dr. John Piconi, Chairman of the Board of Physicians Group of Murrieta, said construction of the new hospital could not have come at a better time, in light of continuing growth in southwest Riverside County.

“In providing health care—especially in this area—you have to have a vision,” he said.



A crowd watches Thursday, May 21, as a construction crane hoists the last piece of steel beam for the new Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta.

“We continue to think that this is one of the best things that Loma Linda is working on,” said Ruthita Fike, MA, CEO of Loma Linda University Medical Center.

She credited support from local doctors, government officials, and community members

for getting the project off the ground and seeing it through.

Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta is located on 50 acres at the northeast corner of Antelope and Baxter roads.

The medical center will provide access to world-class care to a fast-growing region encompassing the cities of Murrieta, Temecula, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Menifee, and surrounding communities.

When it opens, Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta will offer advanced medical specialties, including interventional cardiovascular services, obstetrics, pediatrics, urology, and orthopaedics.

The new hospital will offer state-of-the-art surgical suites, laparoscopic surgery center, imaging center, emergency room, and general and acute-care services. TODAY

PEOPLE

University relations reorganizes

By Richard Weismeyer

Two new associate directors have been named for the office of University relations to better coordinate services to Loma Linda University and its member institutions.

Dustin R. Jones, MA, and Patricia Thio will supervise the public relations and PR video production services, respectively.

“This new structure will enhance the services that we provide to this campus,” says Richard Weismeyer, director of University relations.

As associate director of public relations, Mr. Jones will coordinate the special projects editors and the production of the publications, e-newsletters, graphic identity, news service, and press releases of the institution.

Mr. Jones has served the institution for 10 years as special projects editor.

Prior to coming to Loma Linda University, Mr. Jones coordinated the public relations program for Avondale College, Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia, and had the privilege of inter-

viewing such Australian celebrities as Darren Beadman and Lindy Chamberlain.

He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in public relations from Pacific Union College (PUC), Angwin, California, in 1997. In 1998, he received a bachelor’s degree in journalism, also from PUC.

In 2006, Mr. Jones received his master’s degree in administration and leadership from La Sierra University, Riverside.

He has previously served on the board of directors for the Public Relations Society of America–Inland Empire Chapter and currently supports the public relations needs of 23 hospitals in 16 countries through Adventist Health International, based in Loma Linda.

Ms. Thio is now in charge of “Loma Linda 360°,” documentaries, and all other video production done in this office. She has served as a special projects editor in University relations for nearly seven years.

The winner of eight international film festival awards, Ms. Thio’s work has been screened on five different continents and aired locally and nationally. She was also producer for KZSW’s weekend news show and correspondent for the San Bernardino *Sun* newspaper.

She graduated from Pacific Union College in 2001 with a double major in broadcast journalism and political science. In addition, she attended the USC School of Cinematic Arts summer program in documentary filmmaking in 2007, where she won the Best of Class Documentary.


Ms. Thio is currently working on her master of public health and is a member of the International Documentary Association, the Asian American Journalism Association, and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. TODAY



Dustin R. Jones, MA



Patricia K. Thio



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